



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/624,490

07/23/2003

Ralf Vierich

08005.0010

7823

22852

7590

02/13/2006

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER  
LLP

901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413

EXAMINER

AHN, SANGWOO

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2166

DATE MAILED: 02/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/624,490	<b>Applicant(s)</b> VIERICH ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Sangwoo Ahn	<b>Art Unit</b> 2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 July 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                    | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: Figure 4 element 460 and 462. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Specification***

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Reference numbers 430-432 in page 9 line 24 are not indicated in the drawing section.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Objections***

Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In line 7 of the claim, it should have been step (d) instead of step (c) as presently recited.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

**Claim 5, 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph**, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 5 and 11 recite the limitation "the filter path". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

Claims 5 and 11 recite the limitation "parameters (query items)". This limitation renders the claim indefinite since 1) the reason for the use of parentheses is unclear (whether it is to indicate that parameter is equivalent to query item or to indicate otherwise), and 2) "parameter" and "query item" could mean/point to entirely different parts within the claimed invention. In order to resolve this issue, the examiner respectfully suggests the applicant to either 1) indicate that parameter is equivalent to query item, or 2) choose and recite only one of the above two limitations, namely among "parameters" and "query items".

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

**Claim 1 – 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)** as being anticipated by U.S.

Publication Number 2004/0034615 issued to Neil Thomson et al (hereinafter “Thomson”).

**As per claim 1**, Thomson discloses,

In a decision support system, an interface for generating drill-through paths comprising:

- (a) means for accepting a request from a user for data (paragraphs 6, 56 line 3);
- (b) means for translating the request into a drill-through path selected from a plurality of possible drill-through paths between a source and a target (paragraphs 13, 62);
- (c) optional means for applying one or more parameters to the selected drill-through path to produce a valid drill-through path and to transfer the requested data over the valid drill-through path to an application (paragraph 55, 62); and

(d) display means for displaying the requested data to the user (Figure 9, paragraphs 65).

**As per claim 2**, Thomson discloses,

A computer-based method for obtaining data from one or more compatible data sources for use within applications implementing a decision support system, the method comprising the steps of:

in a business modeling tool before using a business intelligence application,

(a) modeling a mapping of data between a source and a target to produce one or more possible drill-through paths between the source and the target, each drill-through path having one or more parameter mappings (paragraph 14, 55, 62);

in a business intelligence application, using a report authoring tool,

(b) accepting a request from a user for data (paragraphs 6, 56 line 3);

(c) translating the request into a drill-through path selected from the possible drill-through paths between the source and the target (paragraphs 13, 62);

(d) applying one or more parameters to the selected drill-through path to produce a valid parameter mapping and transferring the requested data over the valid parameter mapping to an application (paragraph 55, 62); and

(e) displaying the requested data to a user (Figure 9, paragraphs 65).

**As per claim 3**, Thomson discloses,

A computer-based method for obtaining data from one or more compatible data sources for use within applications implementing a decision support system wherein there is an a business intelligence application, using a report authoring tool, which

Art Unit: 2166

accepts a request from a user for data (paragraphs 6, 56 line 3), translates the request into a drill-through path selected from the possible drill-through paths between the source and the target (paragraphs 13, 62), applies one or more parameters to the selected drill-through path to produce a valid parameter mapping and transfers the requested data over the valid parameter mapping to an application (paragraph 55, 62), and displays the requested data to a user (Figure 9, paragraphs 65), the method comprising:

(a) modeling a mapping of data between a source and a target to produce one or more possible drill-through paths between the source and the target, each drill-through path having one or more parameter mappings (paragraph 14, 55, 62).

**As per claim 4**, Thomson discloses,

A computer-based method for obtaining data from one or more compatible data sources for use within applications implementing a decision support system wherein there is a tool to model the mapping of data between a source and a target to produce one or more possible drill-through paths between the source and the target, each drill-through path having one or more parameter mappings (paragraph 14, 55, 62), the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) accepting a request from a user for data (paragraphs 6, 56 line 3);
- (b) translating the request into a drill-through path selected from the possible drill-through paths between the source and the target (paragraphs 13, 62);

(c) applying one or more parameters to the selected drill-tough path to produce a valid parameter mapping and transferring the requested data over the valid parameter mapping to an application (paragraph 55, 62); and

(d) displaying the requested data to a user (Figure 9, paragraphs 65).

**As per claim 5**, Thomson discloses,

the translating step includes the steps of:

(a) creating a list of parameters (query items) from source and target reports (Figure 1, paragraphs 21, 45, 55 – 56);

(b) for each source parameter, determining a parameter mapping that maps the parameter to the target and collecting them as a single drill-through path (Figure 1, paragraphs 21, 51 – 52);

(c) if more than one parameter mapping points to the same target parameter then duplicating the parameter mapping one for each duplicate target path, thereby avoiding conflicts in forming the filter path; and

(d) continuing to duplicate the parameter mappings until all the parameter mappings for each drill-through path point to unique target parameters (paragraphs 139 ~, 161).

**As per claim 6**, Thomson discloses,

the source and the target are each of types which are selected from a group consisting of report and model (paragraphs 13, 17, 45, 51 – 52).

**As per claim 7**, Thomson discloses,



the source is of a type selected from a group consisting of report and model and the target is a cube derived from a dimension map using a transformation tool (Figure 5, paragraphs 13 – 17, 51 – 52).

**As per claim 8**, Thomson discloses,

the drill-through path is defined by Uniform Resource Locator (URL) (paragraphs 93, 118).

**As per claim 9**, Thomson discloses,

the drill-through path is defined by an HTML FORM (paragraphs 51, 90).

**As per claim 10**, Thomson discloses,

A computer-based system for obtaining data from one or more compatible data sources for use with applications implementing a decision support system, the system comprising:

(a) means for modeling a mapping of data between a source and a target to produce one or more possible drill-through paths between the source and the target, each drill-through path having one or more parameter mappings (paragraph 14, 55, 62);

(b) means for accepting a request from a user for data (paragraphs 6, 56 line 3);

(c) means for translating the request into a drill-through path selected from the possible drill-through paths between the source and the target (paragraphs 13, 62);

(d) means for applying one or more parameters to the selected drill-through path to produce a valid parameter mapping and to transfer the requested data over the valid parameter mapping to the application (paragraph 55, 62); and

(e) display means for displaying the requested data to a user (Figure 9, paragraphs 65).

**As per claim 11**, Thomson discloses,

the means for translating further comprises:

(a) means for creating a list of parameters (query items) from source and target reports (Figure 1, paragraphs 21, 45, 55 – 56);

(b) means for determining, for each source parameter, a parameter mapping that maps the parameter to the target;

(c) means for collecting the parameter mappings as a single drill-through path (Figure 1, paragraphs 21, 51 – 52); and

(c) means for duplicating the parameter mappings one for each duplicate target path to avoid conflicts in forming the filter path (paragraphs 139 ~, 161).

**As per claim 12**, Thomson discloses,

the source and the target are each of types which are selected from a group consisting of report and model (paragraphs 13, 17, 45, 51 – 52).

**As per claim 13**, Thomson discloses,

the source is of a type selected from a group consisting of report and model and the target is a cube derived from a dimension map using a transformation tool (Figure 5, paragraphs 13 – 17, 51 – 52).

**As per claim 14**, Thomson discloses,

the drill-through path is defined by Uniform Resource Locator (URL) (paragraphs 93, 118).

**As per claim 15**, Thomson discloses,  
the drill-through pat is defied by an HTML FORM (paragraphs 51, 53, 63 – 64, 90, 93).

**As per claim 16**, Thomson discloses,  
An apparatus for obtaining data from one or more compatible data sources for use within applications implementing a decision support system, the apparatus comprising:

(a) means for modeling a mapping of data between a source and a target to produce one or more possible drill-through paths between the source and the target, each drill-through path having one or more parameter mappings (paragraph 14, 55, 62);

(b) means for accepting a request from a user for data (paragraphs 6, 56 line 3);

(c) means for translating the request into a drill-through path selected from the one or more possible drill-through paths between the source and the target (paragraphs 13, 62);

(d) means for applying one or more parameters to the selected drill-through path to produce a valid parameter mapping and to transfer the requested data over the valid parameter mapping to the application (paragraph 55, 62); and

(e) display means for displaying the requested data to the user (Figure 9, paragraphs 65).

**As per claim 17**, Thomson discloses,

Computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium, the code for obtaining data from one or more compatible data sources for use with applications implementing a decision support system, the code comprising,

(a) code for modeling a mapping of data between a source and a target to produce one or more possible drill-through paths between the source and the target, each drill-through path having one or more parameters (paragraph 14, 55, 62);

(b) code for accepting a request from a user for data (paragraphs 6, 56 line 3);

(c) code for translating the request into a drill-through selected from the one or more possible drill-through paths between the source and the target (paragraphs 13, 62);

(d) code for applying one or more parameters to the selected drill-through path to produce a valid parameter mapping and to transfer the requested data over the valid parameter mapping to the application (paragraph 55, 62); and

(e) code for displaying the requested data to the user (Figure 9, paragraphs 65).

***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sangwoo Ahn whose telephone number is (571) 272-5626. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sangwoo Ahn  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2166

1/30/2006

  
**MOHAMMAD ALI**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**